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ABSTRACT

The Institute of Scientific Information on Social Sciences of the USSR Academy of Sciences was founded in 1969. Its founding was stimulated by the rapid development and growing importance of the social sciences in the Soviet Union and throughout the world. The Institute has been assigned to be the Soviet center of an integrated scientific information system in the social sciences. It provides information service to the scientific, educational, governmental, and public organizations of the country. It collects and abstracts Soviet and foreign literature. It issues abstract and bibliographic publications. It coordinates experience in the scientific information work in the social sciences and develops relations with foreign information centers. The Institute houses a social science library accommodating 7,000,000 volumes. (KB)

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USSR Academy of Sciences

Institute of Scientific Information on Social Sciences

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
EDUCATION & WELFARE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF
EDUCATION

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The Institute of Scientific Information on Social Sciences of the USSR Academy of Sciences—(INION AN SSSR)* was founded in 1969.

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* The INION is an abbreviation for the Russian spelling (Institut Nauchnoi Informatsii po Obschestvennym Naukam).

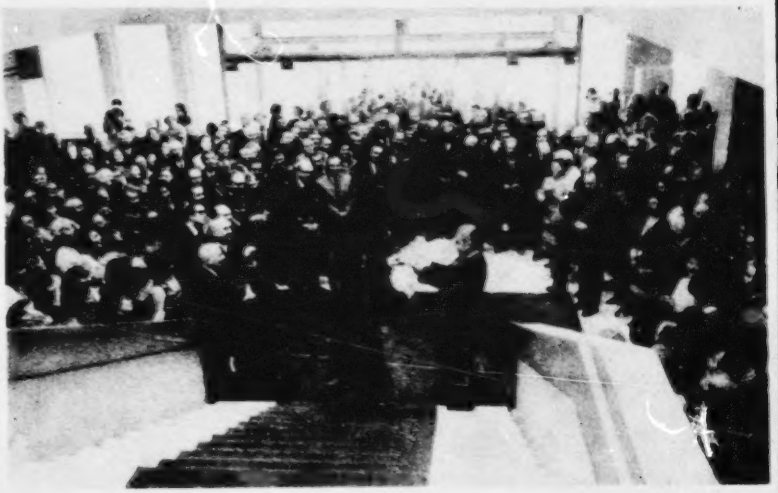
The address of the INION, Institute of Scientific Information on Social Sciences of the USSR Academy of Sciences, ul. Krasikova, 28/45, 117418, Moscow V-418, USSR.

Its creation was first of all necessitated by the growing importance of the social sciences in the life of the Soviet society at the present stage of its development. In the advanced socialist society the social sciences play an increasingly important role as an active tool of understanding economic, social and ideological processes and as a theoretical basis for the regulation of these processes. The foundation of the Institute was also stimulated by the rapid development of the social sciences and their growing importance throughout the world. This fact has entailed an intensified increase in the scientific literature flow that brought about an actual «information explosion» in the social sciences. According to the Unesco data about 1,000,000 books, collections and articles on social sciences are annually published in the world.

Such growth of flow of literature on social sciences has brought about the most urgent need to provide information services for the scientific workers and practicians and to establish a modern integrated information system. The apportionment of information activities into a new independent trend in the social sciences has become an absolutely indispensable condition of their further development and utilization in the cause of social progress.

The INION AN SSSR has been assigned to become the All-Union centre of the integrated scientific-information system in the field of social sciences.

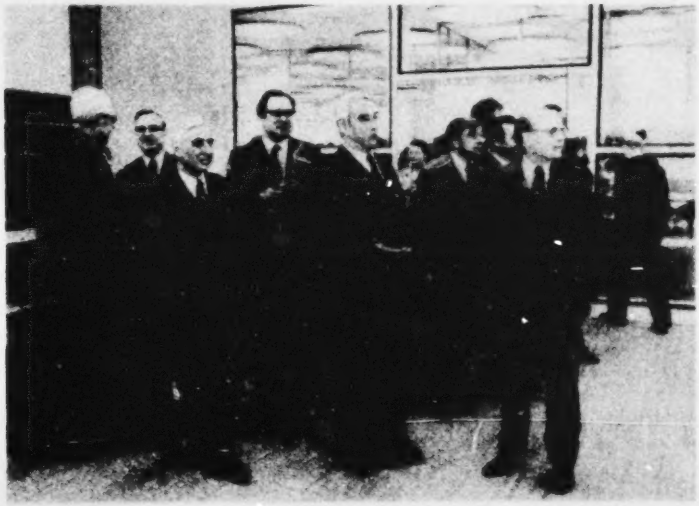
The Institute has been assigned to perform the following functions:



Symbolic ceremony of transmission of the building by the builders to scientists.

— information services for the scientific institutions, higher educational establishments, state bodies and public organizations of the country;
— collection and abstracting of Soviet and foreign literature on social sciences;
— issue of abstract and bibliographic publications and analytic surveys of scientific literature;
— coordination and generalization of the experience in the scientific-information work in the field of social sciences;
— development of scientific relations with foreign scientific-information centres.

Vice—president of AN SSSR academician P. N. Fedoseev cuts the ribbon at the opening ceremony of the new building of the Institute.



Guests visit the Institute.

The Institute was established during the period of 1969—1974: its structure was formed and its leading departments were organized and staffed with highly-qualified scientific workers, the younger staff members were trained and acquired certain experience, the principles and methods of information services in the social sciences were worked out and the system of information publications was created. In 1974 the Institute moved into a new building. Today it houses scientific departments and sections, technical facilities for information services, as well as the book depository, accomodating 7 000 000 volumes; it can boast of a complex of specialized reading rooms and halls for the scientists library—readers, all kinds of catalogues, a spacious reference-bibliographic hall and two conference

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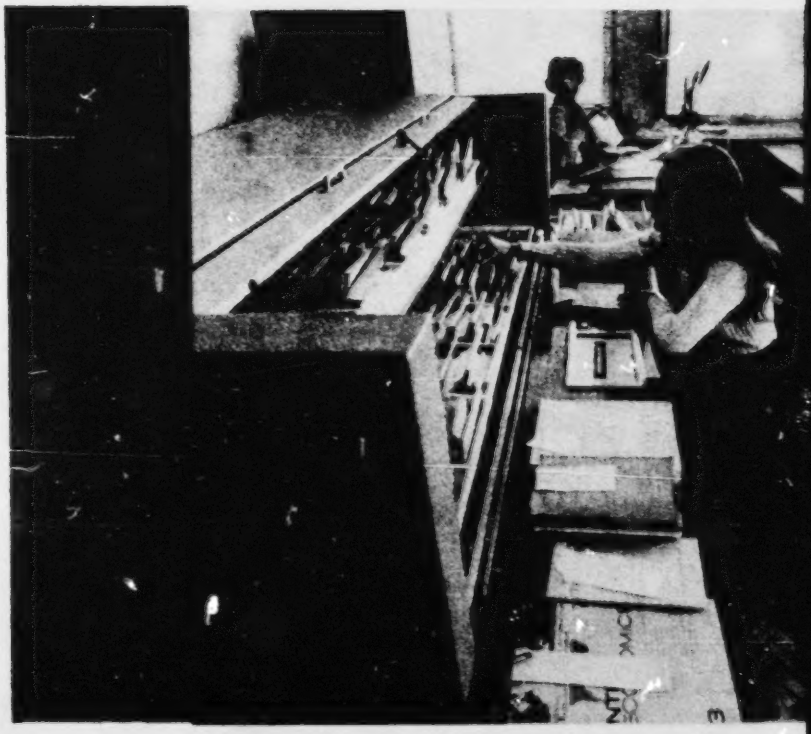


Staff—members of the division of the Selective dissemination of information at work.

ding qualified specialists representing, as it is, all main trends of the social sciences and well experienced in the scientific-information work. There are about 200 candidates and doctors of sciences on the staff of the Institute. This enables the Institute to keep up with all processes in the sphere of social life, timely observe new phenomena and tendencies in the social sciences, provide the information of a complex and conceptual nature of

an independent scientific significance. As a matter of fact, the Institute processes information in all modern languages in which the works on social sciences are published. The complete coverage of all branches of social sciences and high quality of the imformation are also ensured owing to the extensive co-operation with qualified specialists of various scientific research Institutes of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR non-academic scientific centres and higher educational institutions. As many as several thousand specialists are being engaged at the present time in the preparation of the information materials.

ACTIVITIES OF THE INSTITUTE. The preparation of bibliographic and abstracted information on all trends of the social sciences is the principal task of the Institute. The development of abstracted information is receiving special attention for the reason that this trend of the information services in the sphere of social sciences is a new and complicated one. As distinct from the bibliographical information existing many a decade, the elaboration of extensive, systematized and regular abstracted information flow covering all trends of the social sciences has been organized in the USSR for the first time.

While working out the system of abstracted information, the Institute has simultaneously solved a number of questions on the methods and organizational patterns, elaborated the principles of selection of literature for abstraction, determined the basic elements of an abstract form and content and also the types of abstract publications. First of all books and theoretical and analytical articles that contain new conclusions, ideas and concepts are abstracted. A scientifically adequate abstract in the field of social sciences has been defined as a document, reproducing not only the principal provisions and conclusions of the original material, but also its world outlook element, politico-ideological orientation, logic of the research and the system of principal arguments justifying such conclusions. Two main types of an abstract have been also specified: first — a brief abstract, mainly used as a preprint; second — an extensive abstract, which could be as well used for problem-orientated retrospective information. The abstract journal and the abstract collection have been chosen as the two principal types of abstract publications. And lastly, analytic surveys of literature have been selected as a special form of scientific-information activities (abstract journals, abstract collections and analytic serveys). The prepared information is being disseminated throughout the branched system of scientific-information publications of the Institute. These publications fall according to their contents into current information and retrospective subject-problematic publications; according to the type of information the publications are classified as bibliographic, abstract and scientific-analytical. The leading role in this system belongs to the two abstract journals: «Social Sciences in the USSR» and «Social Sciences Abroad». The former consists of 7 series, the latter of 9 series.

The foundation of abstract journals is the most important step in the development of modern system of scientific information in social sciences. The journals are called for to acquaint scientific workers, higher school teachers, state bodies and public organizations systematically with the latest and most interesting literature in social sciences, edited in this country and abroad. Literature in Russian and other languages of the peop-

THE ABSTRACT JOURNALS OF THE INION AN SSSR

I. Social Sciences in the USSR

1. Problems of Scientific Communism
2. Economics
3. Philosophical Sciences
4. State and Law
5. History
6. Linguistics
7. Literary Criticism

II. Social Sciences Abroad

1. Problems of Scientific Communism
2. Economics
3. Philosophy and Sociology
4. State and Law
5. History
6. Linguistics
7. Literary Criticism
8. Science of Sciences
9. Orient and African Studies

les of the Soviet Union is abstracted for the abstract journal «Social Sciences in the USSR», for the abstract journal «Social Sciences Abroad» — literature in more than 30 languages is abstracted. The periodicity of both abstract journals is: in 1973—76 — quaterly, since 1977 — bimonthly.

Scientific humanitarian institutions, higher educational institutions, scientific libraries, editorial staffs of periodic scientific and socio-political publications, state institutions and public organisations are among the subscribers to the journals.

The general principle and trends of work on abstract journals are determined by the Editorial council, the staff of which consists of the leading Soviet scientists in social studies, including a number of directors of the main institutes for social sciences of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR. For the scientific guidance of publication of the serials of abstract journals special editorial boards are set up, well known specialists in this or that scientific discipline — scholars and higher school teachers collaborating in their activities. The relevant divisions of the INION carry out concrete work preparing materials for abstract journals. The heads of the divisions are cheaf editors of serials or their assistants.

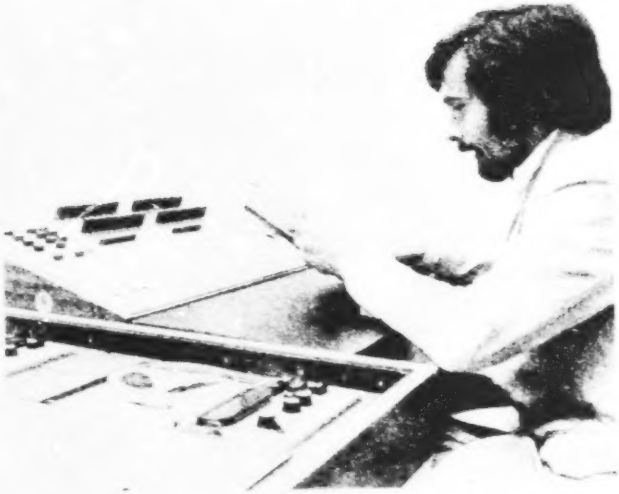
Problem and subject *collections of abstracts* are the second type of the INION abstract editions. Unlike the abstract journals the collections of abstracts are publications of a special purpose. Every collection of abstracts is devoted to a separate scientific theme or problem, presenting a special interest to scientists. These collections are often devoted to complex problems of social development. Collections of abstracts retrospectively cover the state of research work on, for instance, key problems such as socio-economic and ideological aspects of the scientific and technical revolution; acute questions of Soviet and world economy; problems of development of the socialist countries, theoretical problems of development of socialist society, questions of aggravation of the general crisis of capitalism at the present stage, urgent problems of the present ideological struggle and others. The task to deal with the most important trends in scientific theoretical thought in the USSR or abroad in separate branches of social studies is put forward.

Abstracts and surveys not only of the latest literature, but of the most important scientific works, published during the last years, are included

Foreign language lessons are delivered in a well-equipped language laboratory.

in collections of abstracts. This makes it possible to show retrospectively the development of research work and scientific thought in that field, to which the collection is devoted. Collections of abstracts are non-periodical publications and are edited in separate issues or in serials, united under one heading. The circle of consumers of the collection is more differentiated. The collections are meant for specialists, working on the given problem or in the adjacent fields.

The publication of collections of abstracts is carried out, as a rule, in the closest co-operation with the institutes of the Academy and other scientific organisations, which take an active part in the process of determining the themes of collections, in selections of literature, in abstracting and scientific editing of the materials.



The INION prepares also *scientific analytical surveys* of literature — the most complex, synthetic type of scientific abstract information. Surveys are aimed at generalizing the main tendencies in the development of scientific thought in social sciences (state of research of the fundamental problem in this or that field of knowledge, scientific schools and theories, the leading representatives of socio-scientific thought, etc). The themes of surveys bear upon complex problems of building of communism, world social development and the present ideological struggle. The authors of such surveys are the most qualified specialists, working in the INION or in other scientific centres of the country.

The system of scientific-information publications of the INION includes several types of *bibliographical information* covering all the fields of social sciences and complex area studies.

These are first of all editions of current information — monthly *bul-*

letins on new Soviet and foreign literature in social sciences (alert information).

The edition of bulletins was started by the Fundamental Library for Social Sciences of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, which in 1969 became a part of the Institute. At present the Institute publishes 28 disciplinary, subject or area serials.

Bulletins give the most full bibliographical information on the whole flow of literature, devoted to the subject of social sciences, coming to the INION, and also to the State Lenin Library of the USSR, the All-Union State Library of Foreign Literature and a number of other large scientific Moscow libraries. This literature is looked through and classified by the people from the Section of scientific and bibliographical information in accordance with disciplinary and area rubricators worked-out for every bulletin.

In bulletins of new foreign literature all marked editions are accompanied by short annotations, disclosing the contents of the document. On the whole all the bulletin serials contain annually information on more

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL INDEXES

I. New Soviet Literature in Social Science:

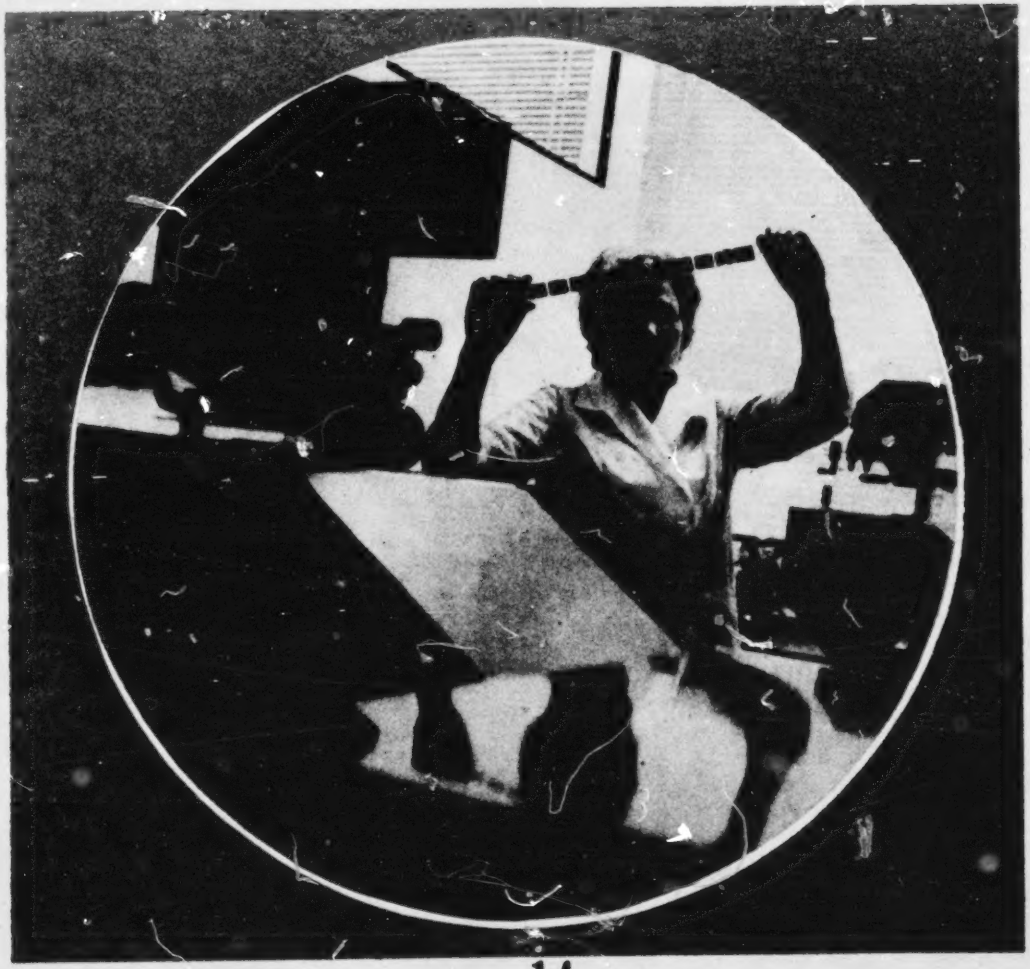
1. State and Law
2. History, Archaeology; Ethnography
3. Literary Criticism
4. Science of Sciences
5. Philosophycal Sciences
6. Economics
7. Linguistics

II. New Soviet and Foreign Literature in Social Sciences:

1. European Socialist Countries. General Problems
2. Problems of Slavic and Balkan Studies
3. the People's Republic of Bulgaria
4. the Hungarian People's Republic
5. the German Democratic Republic
6. the Polish People's Republic
7. the Roumanian People's Republic
8. the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic
9. Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia
10. Countries of Asia and Africa. General Problems
11. Middle East
12. South and South--East Asia
13. International Labour Movement
14. Problems of Atheism and Religion

III. New Foreign Literature in Social Sciences:

1. State and Law
2. History. Archaeology. Ethnography
3. Literary Criticism
4. Science of Sciences
5. Philosophy and Sociology
6. Economics
7. Linguistics



than 250.000 books, collections, journal articles and reviews published in the languages of the Union republics of the USSR, and also in 35 foreign languages in more than 100 countries of the world.

Year in year out the INION publishes various types of *bibliographical indexes*: disciplinary and subject, spilling information on new literature, or retrospective ones.

Fundamental bibliographical indexes of Soviet literature, reflecting the development of social sciences during the years of the Soviet power, belong here too. The Institute participates in international bibliographical editions on historical sciences, economy and sociology, Balkan studies. Besides fundamental indexes the Institute carries out current information and bibliographical work: it prepares special indexes of Soviet and foreign literature for international scientific congresses, provides guidance and bibliographical service to scientific institutions and separate scholars according to their inquiries.

In the information activities of the INION the system of *Selective dissemination of information* took a significant place embracing the leading Soviet scientists and not only in the field of social sciences but also natural and technical sciences. The programme of the Selective dissemination of information envisages alert bibliographical information on new-scientific periodicals and direct supply of the scientist with scientific documents presenting interest to him. Every scientist, enjoying the service of this system, receives regularly xerocopies of table of contents of the published issues of those foreign scientific journals, which he is interested in.

The following data give a general picture of the scope of the information activities of the Institute: more than 700 separate issues of scientific and information editions (abstract journals and collections, analytical surveys and separate abstracts, bibliographical bulletins and indexes etc.) are published annually, and the total amount of this production reaches 5000 «printed sheets».

INION LIBRARY. When the Institute was established, the Fundamental Library of Social Sciences of the Academy of Sciences, which was already founded in 1918, became a division of the Institute. At present, while creating the system of scientific and information editions, the Institute continues library service of scholars of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR and other scientific organisations, higher school teachers, postgraduates and students writing their diplomas.

The basis of this activity of the Institute is formed by the conception, that a scientific library is a part of a general system of information supply of science and must make the retrieval of the necessary data and access to literature containing such information as easy as possible. Besides the general reading hall and the hall for periodicals the readers have specialized scientific study rooms at their disposal. The Library is equipped with apparatus for the reading of all kinds of microforms. In the free admission premises of the reading halls and study rooms there are encyclopaedias, directories, statistical yearbooks, and also some part of the most frequently used scientific literature. For the readers a standing exhibition of new literature, received by the Institute, is organized. Every

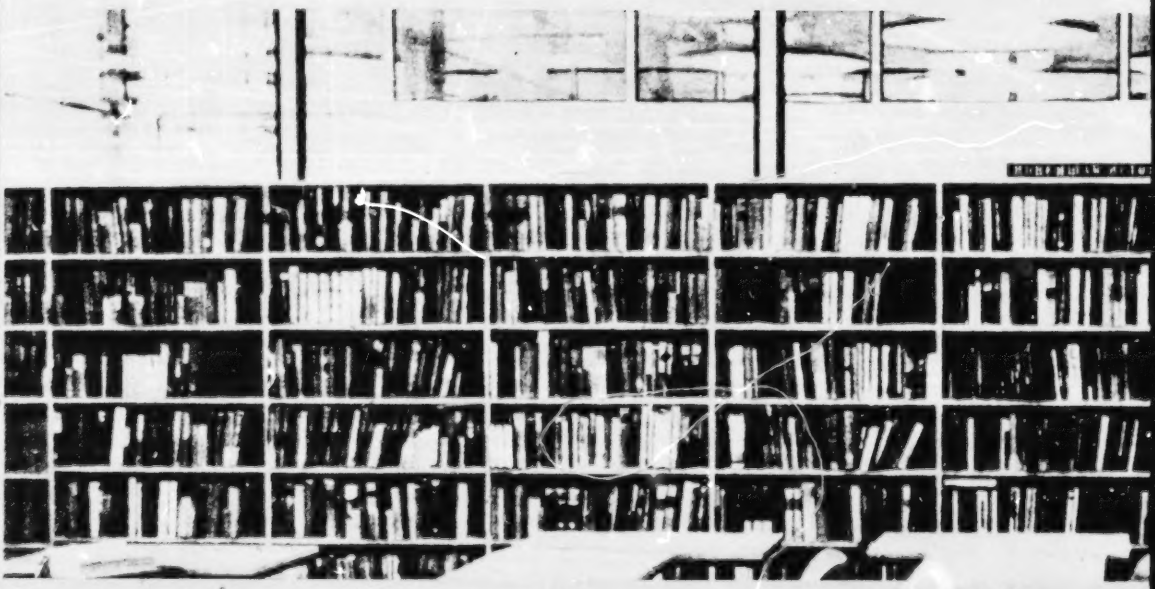
year more than 30 000 references are given to scientific organizations and individual readers. A scientific worker may order a xerocopy of the information document he needs (an article, statistical tables, etc.). In the Library of the INION there work the interlibrary, intertown and international loan systems. Through these loans the readers may get literature, not available in the INION holdings. The readers of the Library and its divisions also enjoy the services of the individual loan, whereby you may take books home.

Today the number of regular readers of the Library totals to 16 000 people. Every year thousands of scientific workers and higher school teachers, arriving in Moscow from other towns of the Soviet Union and from abroad, become readers of the Library and its divisions. On the whole more than 2 million books and journals are given to the readers annually.

- ACQUISITION OF SCIENTIFIC HOLDINGS. The scientific holdings of the Institute are systematically replenished both by the native printed matter and by foreign scientific publications. The completeness of acquisition of native literature is achieved mainly on account of reception by the Institute of the obligatory copies of books and journals published in the USSR. The acquisition of foreign literature is accomplished through purchases and exchange with foreign organisations. The selection of literature is fulfilled by highly qualified specialists: the personnel of abstract and bibliographical divisions — as a result of thorough scanning of editorial catalogues, prospectus, notices, surveys and national bibliographies received by the Institute. The Institute subscribes to the literature in 115 countries and has book-exchange connections with 1600 scientific organisations, information centers and publishing houses in more than 60 countries.

SCIENTIFIC HOLDINGS OF THE INION. The Institute has at its disposal the most abundant literature holding. By the 1st of January, 1975 the book-storage of the Institute and in its branches in Moscow academic Institutes has accumulated 9760 thousand units of the printed output (books, brochures, journals, microfilms, etc.), with foreign publications constituting more than half of the holding. Marxism-Leninism founders' works, works dealing with activities of the C. P. S. U. and foreign communist and progressive organisations are represented on a large scale The Institute posesses one of the best in the USSR collection of parliamentary reports and diplomatic reports collection. At the Institute disposal there is a complete set of international diplomatic conferences' reports, publications of the League of Nations, of the UNO, ILO, UNESCO and other similar organisations. The Institute disposes of a well-selected bibliographical and reference publications holding. Some journals are represented as a set of journals covering the period of 100 years and more.

The basic and the most valuable part of the holdings is now housed in the new building of the Institute where with the help of special apparatus the optimum physical conditions necessary for documents storage (temperature, dampness, light) are created and maintained. The quality of documents preservation (especially of old ones), is systematically checked and, if needed, they undergo restoration.

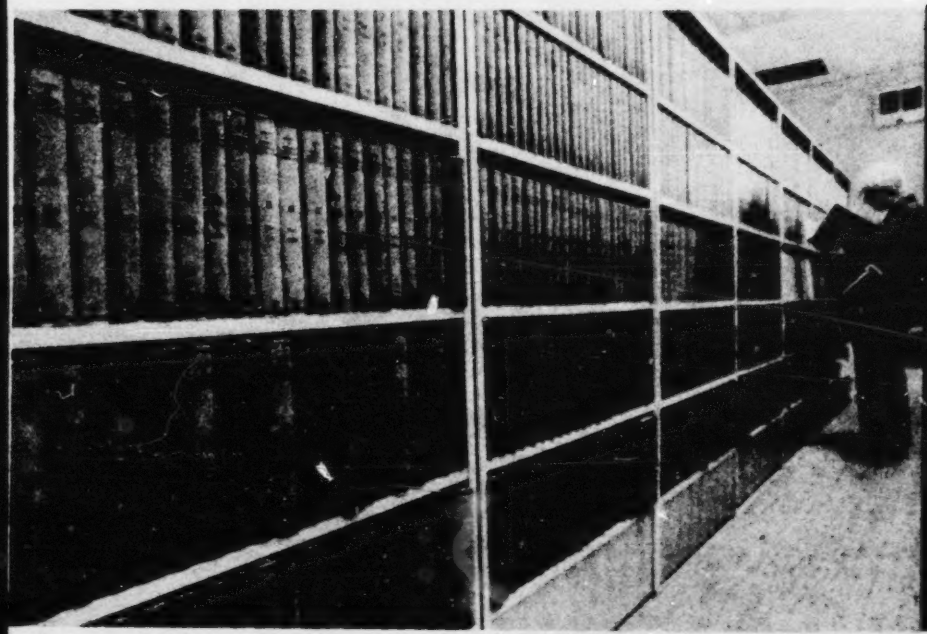


ESTABLISHMENT OF RETRIEVAL SYSTEMS. In this field the INION acts in several directions: it provides for a contextual processing of documents, it has created a whole set of catalogues and systematical files and it carries out the elaboration of retrieval languages. According to its structure and context the subject catalogue of the Institute is a unique retrieval apparatus in the field of social sciences. All the books, brochures, microfilms, depositing publications of the INION are represented in this catalogue. Its capacity is over 200 thousand headings and about 2 million cards. It employs a great variety of see references disclosing the relationship between social events and processes under consideration and between scientific concepts. The subject catalogue permits to select both literature on some specific narrow question and literature on broad themes mostly of interbranch character.

Rubricators and subject indexes are elaborated for the INION system of informational publications, especially for its bibliographical bulletins and abstract journals.

At present the Institute is working hard on elaboration of the integral computerized information system based on the employment of computers and some other modern technical devices.

COORDINATION OF INFORMATION ON THE SOCIAL SCIENCES. The Institute co-ordinates and theoretically generalises the experience of scientific-information activities gained in the field of social

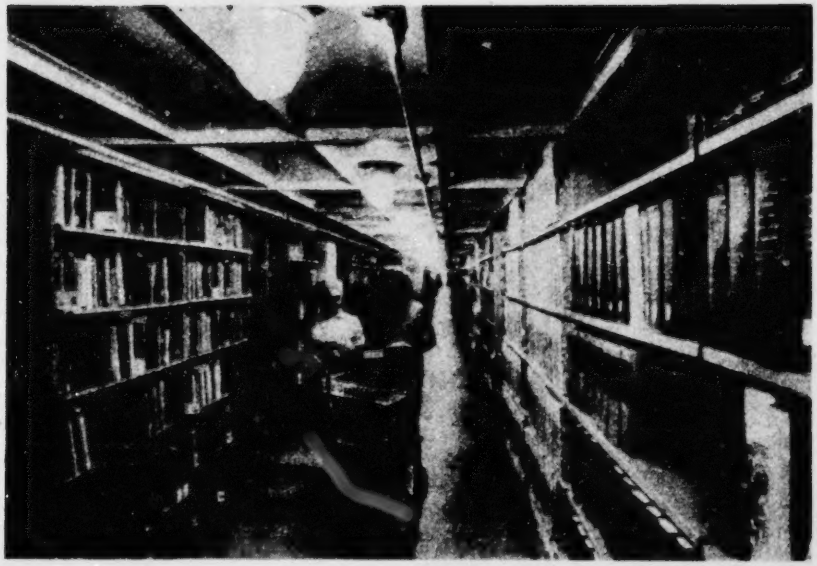


This is the storage of one of the largest collections of the reference—bibliographic literature.

sciences in the country. For this purpose the Institute of Scientific Information on Social Sciences of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR (INION) holds every year a meeting with the representatives of the Scientific Information Division of humanitarian Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences and representatives of the Scientific Information Division of the Academies of Sciences of Soviet Republics. During these years Social Sciences Information Centers have emerged in most of the

The general reading—room.

Republican Academies of Sciences. The Centers accomplish the collection and preparation of information materials on subjects attached to them, publish subject-problematic information collections, scientific-analytical surveys and bibliographical information, they also create reference-informational holding on problems of special interest to scientific Institutions and governmental bodies of Soviet Republics. The Republican Centers work in close co-operation with the INION, which renders them practical and methodological assistance.

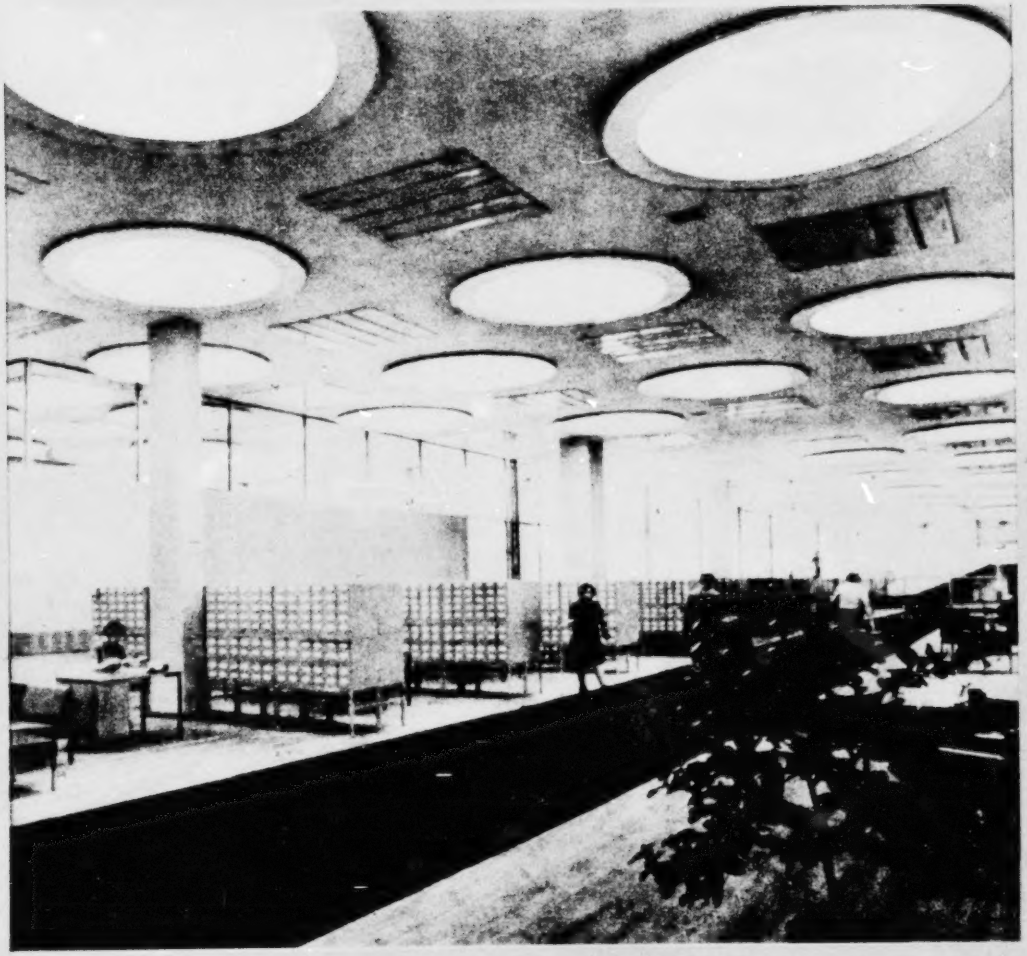


In a book storage compartment.

The hall of readers' catalogues.

INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONNECTIONS OF THE INION. During the last years the co-operation in the field of scientific information between the Soviet Union and other countries and, first of all with the socialist countries has acquired the great importance.

To-day the INION is collaborating in the field of scientific information in social sciences with scientific-information institutions of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Hungarian People's Republic, the



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German Democratic Republic, the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam, the Mongolian People's Republic, the Polish People's Republic, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic. Within the frame-work of the interacademic agreements between the Socialist countries certain protocols and working plans on cooperation have been signed between the INION and the Central Board of Information and Documentation in Social Sciences of the German Democratic Republic Academy of Sciences, the

Center of Scientific Information — Fundamental Library of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, the Bureau of Economic Information of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, the Center of Scientific Information of the Polish Academy of Sciences, the Institute of Information of the Committee of Social Sciences of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam, the Division of Scientific Information of the Mongolian Academy of Sciences. These agreements specify the principles, the basic directions and the forms of cooperation, they indicate concrete problems and themes of cooperation and propose certain measures, aimed at the development of socialist cooperation and labour division in the sphere of scientific information called for to increase the efficiency of this information.

The INION of the USSR Academy of Sciences participates in the work of international scientific and scientific-information organisations such as FID, IFLA, the International Economic History Association, the International Committee for Social Sciences Information and Documentation, the European (Vienna) Coordination Center for Research and Documentation in Social Sciences, the International Economic Association (IEA), and in the UNESCO project on creation of International information system in the field of socioeconomic development.

The INION publishes the Information Bulletin on international scientific congresses and conferences. The Bulletin is to inform in due time scientists and tutorial staff of the higher educational institutions of the forthcoming International scientific congresses and conferences.

Every year dozens of scientists and specialists of the INION of the USSR Academy of Sciences go abroad on scientific missions: to participate in the work of international conferences.

In their turn hundreds of scientists and specialists from socialist, capitalist and developing countries visit the INION and its divisions in the humanitarian Institutes of the USSR Academy of Sciences. The reading rooms and holdings of the Library are open for foreign specialists. If it is required they can get highly qualified help and receive the necessary consultation on all the questions concerning scientific information on social sciences.

The INION publications circulate in 39 countries of the world.

The signing of the record of proceedings on cooperation between the INION AN SSSR and the Centre of scientific information of the Polish People's Republic Academy of Sciences.

Производственно издательский комбинат ВИНИТИ